

W.M. S. BAILEY,

BOOK AND GENERAL JOB PRINTER,

109 SOUTH CHERRY ST.

Nashville, Tenn., Sept 29th 1880

Dear Friend, Mr May,

yours of 23<sup>rd</sup> came in  
yesterday eve with dft for \$10, inclosed  
and for which I am truly thankful to you.

I know you are my friend, and sympathise with me in my troubles; and I have often felt, as you say, that I ought to move away from such a place, and people who can not appreciate a true friend to the human family, but some of the old rebels have been friendly enough toward me to give me their printing to do; it is, probably, more because I do it cheaper and nicer than they get it elsewhere, that they patronize me; but cheap work buyses many to feel that I am not such a bad "Radical" after all, and such condescend to speak a good word for me, as being "a clever old feller" and feel that they have done a great deal for me by giving me their printing to do although there is but little made by doing the work. Some of their old slaveholding comrades get very mad with them

for giving me anything to do — and I find the friendly ones generally in the company of those "Radical" haters notwithstanding — but I know my course of social friendship with them all, has done much to soften the hatred formerly existing toward such as me. But it has been a hard life for me to live and continue to do so, and if I could find somewhere to go to make an easier living I believe I would go.

This last trouble has worn hard upon me and I feel the effect age very much, but I had desired to live in the south among those who had treated me so bad, and die in a good cause. The 10th next February I shall be 75 years old, and I would like and early to encourage the others to industry that I may get on with as little aid as possible from good and generous friends.

I like your letter and your earnest admonition in my behalf; and I know there are but few that would worry and toil and talk to Rebels as I do, to cause them to see the importance of social friendship with the good people of the North, with whom they have to trade, and to whom they should feel grateful; but I like to shew them their sulky dog-in-the-manger course of action toward a people who have always shown such sympathy toward them in times of sickness and want, and poured out their money by hundreds of thousands to help them when death and pestilence came upon them. — I will see what I can do, friend May, and write you again before long. Were there <sup>more</sup> persons here from the North a greater good could be done; and were I able to print a paper here I think it would pay in a year's time. With kind regards to your household and friend I remain your most thankful friend, Wm S Bailey